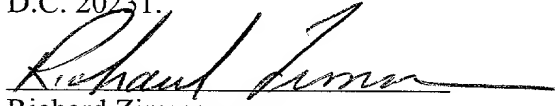


PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:)	"EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label
)	No. EM578443637US
Auf Der Maur et al.)	
)	Date of Deposit: December 28, 2000
Serial No.: _____)	
)	I hereby certify that this paper (or fee) is
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That is Stable in a Reducing Environment)	37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated
and Applications Thereof)	above and is addressed to the
)	Commissioner for Patents, Washington,
Group Art Unit: Not Assigned)	D.C. 20231.
)	
Examiner: Not Assigned)	
)	Richard Zimmermann

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a preliminary amendment to the above-identified application which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Serial No. 09/529,307. Please enter the following amendment.

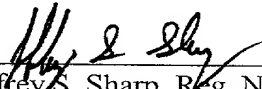
IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, lines 6-9, delete the entire sentence and insert --This application is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/529,307 filed April 11, 2000, which is a U.S. National Phase Application based on PCT/IB00/00218 filed March 1, 2000

which is based on PCT/IB99/02054 filed December 28, 1999, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.--

Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, O'TOOLE, GERSTEIN,
MURRAY & BORUN

By 
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December 28, 2000